

## **Pharmacist Professional Advisory Committee Honors Mary Louise Andersen**

Rockville, MD

At a Nov. 12 ceremony in the Surgeon General's conference room, the PHS Pharmacist PAC named one of its highest honors after retired PHS civil service pharmacist Mary Louise Andersen. Surgeon General VADM Richard H. Carmona, Chief Pharmacist Officer RADM Richard S. Walling, leading pharmacy professional association executives and numerous PHS pharmacists and guests attended the event.

Renaming the Non-Clinical Pharmacist of the Year Award recognized Andersen's illustrious pharmacy and Federal government careers. During her years with the Federal government, Pharmacist Andersen served in many key PHS leadership positions. They include Special Assistant to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health/Operations, Deputy Director of HRSA's Bureau of Primary Health Care, as well as assignments within the Philadelphia Regional Office, the Indian Health Service and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

In announcing the rationale for the PAC's decision, Immediate Past Chair CAPT Craig Hostetler noted that Pharmacist Andersen exemplifies all of the current selection criteria for the award:

1. Job accomplished as evidenced by outstanding management of heavy or complex workloads, contracts or grants administered, sustained and significant performance levels, new programs developed and implemented, and ability to produce results in the face of extreme difficulty.
2. Professional standing as evidenced by membership and/or offices held in professional organizations, publication(s) in recognized journals, awards and letters of appreciation.
3. Non-professional standing as evidenced by engagement in outside activities and recognition by community and/or non-professional groups.

Mary Louise Andersen graduated from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science ('52) and joined her father in community pharmacy practice in Wilmington, Delaware. She is the daughter, sister, wife, mother and mother-in-law of pharmacists. She was active in the Delaware Pharmaceutical Society (DPS), serving as (first woman) President in 1965. She received the A.H.Robbins Bowl of Hygeia Award and the Harry Zeisig Award from DPS. During these years she partnered with other pharmacy leaders in convening the first Symposium for Women in Pharmacy

She was elected Vice-President of the American Pharmaceutical Association and then served for two years as Speaker of the House of Delegates. During her terms, students in the profession were given official recognition as members in this body, a decision for which she has been honored with the Linwood F. Tice Friend of the Academy of Students of Pharmacy Award. She was the first female candidate for the office of APhA

President. In 2003, Mary Lou Andersen was awarded the Remington Honor Medal -- one of American pharmacy's highest honors.

She also was a founder of The Children's Inn, a residential facility on the campus of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The Children's Inn houses critically ill children, who are enrolled in NIH research protocols, and their families. The Inn was started with 36 family housing units and its capacity has recently been expanded to house 72 families. She created a high functioning Board of Directors, served two terms as President and was awarded the Starlight Award, the highest award given. She continues as an advisor to the Inn and serves on its search committee.

To commemorate the event, VADM Carmona presented the honoree with a pewter plate containing the PHS seal, and many of the attendees told of their first or most important interactions with this esteemed pharmacist and health care leader.

In addition to many PHS pharmacists, special guests attending the event included:

RADM Arthur J. Lawrence	USPHS
RADM Richard M. Church	USPHS
John A. Gans, PhD	American Pharmacists Association
Lucinda L. Maine, PhD Richard P. Penna, PharmD	American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
Henri A. Manasse, PhD CAPT Joe Deffenbaugh (ret)	American Society of Health-System Pharmacists
C. Edwin Webb, PharmD	American College of Clinical Pharmacy
Judy Cahill Marissa Schlaifer	Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy
RADM Richard Bertin (ret.)	Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties
Karen Grace, PharmD (Honoree's daughter)	Walter Reed Army Medical Center
John Parascandola	PHS Historian
Wilford J. Forbush	Retired DHHS Director of the Office of Management